REPORTS OF THE COMMITTEE ON THE WELFARE OF SCHEDULED CASTES AND SCHEDULED TRIBES

SHRI RAM RATAN (Uttar Pradesh): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in English and Hindi) of the following Reports:—

(i) Report on Study Tour of the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on its visit to Pune, Bombay, Goa; Udaipur and Jaipur during July, 1994.

(ii) Report on Study Tour of Study Group I of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on the visit to Calcutta, Patna, Ranchi; Rourkela and Bhubaneswar during September —October, 1994.

(iii) Report on Study Tour of Study Group II of the Committee on the Welfare of Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes on its visit to Bangaore, Mysore, Trivandrum Madras during September—October; 1994.

REPORTS OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON ENERGY

SHRI VIREN J. SHAH (Maharashtra): Madam, I lay on the Table a copy each (in Engisn and Hindi) of the following Reports of the Standing Committee on Energy:—

(i) Sixteenth Report on action taken on Sixth Report of the Standing Committee on Energy (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Ministry of Power.

(ii) Nineteenth Report on action taken on Ninth Report of the Standing Commnittee on Energy (Tenth Lok Sabha) on Demands for Grants (1994-95) of the Department of Atomic Energy.

REPORTS AND MINUTES OF THE STANDING COMMITTEE ON RAILWAYS

श्रीमती सरला माहेश्वरी (पश्चिमी बंगाल) : महोदया मैं रेलवे संबंधी स्थायी समिति 1995–96 के निम्नलिखित प्रतिवेदनों की एक-एक प्रति (अंग्रेजी तथा हिन्दी में) सभा पटल पर रखती हूं :—

(i) रेल मंत्रालय की अनुदान मांगों (1994–95) के संबंध में समिति के छठे प्रतिवेदन में अंतर्विष्ट सिफारिशों/टिप्पणियों पर सरकार द्वारा की गई कार्यवाही के संबंध में तेरहवां प्रतिवेदन।

MOTION FOR ELECTION TO THE NATIONAL SHIPPING BOARD

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (SHRI JAGDISH TYTLER): Madam, I beg to move:

That in pursuance of clause (a) of sub-section (2) of section 4 of the Merchant Shipping Act, 1958 (44 of 1958), read with sub rule (1) of rule 4 of the Naional Shipping Board Rules, 1960, this House do proceed to elect in such manner as the Chairman may direct, two members from among the members of the National Shipping Board.

The question was put and the motion was adopted.

Re: Privilege question raised by Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, please allow me to say something. Yesterday, Shrimati Jayanthi Natarajan the hon. Member of Parliament has said that she has been harassed by the Tamil Nadu police. We are all very much concerned about this. We felt very sorry that a Member of Parliament.. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please keep quiet in the House.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: She raised a matter of privilege that she was harassed by a policeman on the 24th April, 1995. Madam, we are very much concerned that this has happened to a Member of Parliament. This House is a very important one and Member of Parliament cannot be harassed by anybody. I immediately took up the matter with the Tamil Nadu Government. The Tamil Nadu Government has informed me that they have sent a fax message because yesterday the hon. Home Minister has said that he is seeking a report from the Tamil Nadu Government as to what has actually happened. On the basis of that, I immediately contacted the Tamil Nadu Government and the Tamil Nadu Chief Secretary has informed me that the Government has already sent a fax message to the Home Secretary.... (*Interruptions*)...

SYED SIBTEY RAZI: Madam, I am on a point of order.

SHRI S. K. T. RAMACHANDRAN Madam this is all a story... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, I have got a report from the Tamil Nadu Government which I am prepared to lay on the Table of the House. Actually, what happened was that the Chief Minister's convoy was going on the road and the hon. Member probably would have been coming in the opposite direction. The policemen there told the hon. Member that the Chief Minister's convoy was to pass through the route and that she might take the by-lane. She told him that she was going to the court. She abused the policeman and consequently this is what has happened. Madam, there was no disrespect to the hon. Member. I have got the report and it is with me and I am willing to lay it on the Table of the House.

SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN (Tamil Nadu): Madam, the action of the policeman should be condemned. He is defending the police officials. what is this? When a Member of Parliament is assaulted, instead of protecting her, he is defending the police officials. What is this?

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: I am stating the facts.

SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: If you are harassed this way, what will you do?... (*Interruptions*)... This is a matter between the hon. Member and the police officials..... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please ...(*Interruptions*) ...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, I am not accusing the hon. Member .. (*Interruptions*).. The Chief Minister's convey was going (*Interruptions*)..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down.. (*Interruptions*)..

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, the Chief Minister's convoy was going... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI S.K.T. RAMACHANDRAN: Madam, he is trying to twist the matters.. (*Interruptions*)..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: What I understand from what Mr. Swaminathan was saying is that (*Interruptions*).. what Mr. Swaminathan was saying is that ... (*Interruptions*)... Mr. Swaminathan .... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, the Chief Minister's convoy was coming... (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swaminathan, please sit down. One minute please.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: When the Chief Minister's convoy was coming, there was Mr. Chinnasamy, the police official... (*Interruptions*)...

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Whatever little I could hear from what Mr. Swaminathan was saying because there is so much of noise and the ear-phones whatever I could ga- I could hear this much only through ther from what Mr. Swaminathan was saying, I understand that he was also very concerned about the ill-treatment meted out to a Member of this House. He said he immediately contacted the Tamil Nadu Government and obtained a report and he was saying that he would like to lay it on the Table of the House. I cannot permit him to lay it on the Table of the House. Mr. Swaminathan, we are satisfied that you have got a report from the Government of Tamil Nadu. You should hand it over to the Home Minister in his Chamber.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: If I cannot lay it on the Table of the House, I can hand it over to you personally either in the House or in your Chamber.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: You can hand it over to the Home Minister in his Chamber.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: The Tamil Nadu Government has already sent the report to the Home Secretary stating that there was no truth in the matter. She has exaggerated the whole matter. For some purpose, she has exaggerated the whole matter. She had not filed any complaint when she went to the court.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Mr. Swaminathan, you can give this report which was sent to you by the Tamil Nadu Government... (*Interruptions*)... just a minute. Please sit down. Please sit down... (*Interruptions*)... Let us not politicise the issue. You hand over the report to the Home Minister in his Chamber because I cannot permit you to lay it on the Table of the House. This is not proper. Now you can sit down. (*Interruptions*)..

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Please sit down. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, there is one more small point. (*Interruptions*)..

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: You cannot permit him now. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Not on this. (*Interruptions*). Madam, it is not on this. (*Interruptions*). I am quoting from today's morning newspapers. (*Interruptions*). This matter was raised in the other House. I am seeing the report in the papers on that. Mr. Shukla has stated in the other House.. (*Interruptions*). It is from the newspapers that I am quoting. Mr. Shukla said in the Lok Sabha. (*Interruptions*). Please allow me to speak. (Interruptions).. I am not quoting from the other House. Madam, I am only reading from the newspapers because it vitally concerns Tamil Nadu. He says that the Central Government is not responsible. The only point that I wish to raise is that it is a matter of the Governor. It is a matter of accountability. (*Interruptions*). Please allow me to speak. (*Interruptions*). Please allow me. The Governor has been appointed by the President and the President has.... (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Are you referring to the proceedings of the other House? What are you referring to?

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: Madam, I am reading from the newspaper.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: It is a newspaper report that he is referring to. (*Interruptions*). He can refer to a newspaper report. We refer to newspaper reports everyday. .. (*Interruptions*).

Never mind. He can refer to newspaper reports. Everybody is reading it. (*Interruptions*).

THE MINISTER OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI S. B. CHAVAN): Madam, I have a point to submit.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Just one minute, Mr. Swaminathan. The Home Minister wants to say something.

SHRI S. B. CHAVAN: Yesterday, there was a discussion and he had raised this point. I had requested them that the conduct of the Governor should not be brought on the record of the House. Thereafter, the whole thing was over.

Now, if Mr. Shukla has said something in the other House and you are trying to quote the same from the newspapers and reopen what took place yesterday, I think, it should not be done.

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: I am not reopening it Sir) I am not talking of the Governor. I am only quoting from the newspapers that Mr. Shukla has said something in the other House which we were prevented to say in this House. (*Interruptions*). I am not complaining about it. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Let him say. (*Interruptions*). Let him finish. (*Interruptions*).

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: He says what has happened has happened because it is the action of the Governor and that they are not concerned and the Prime Minister is not concerned. That is what he has stated. My only point is that the Governor has been appointed at the pleasure of the President and on the recommendation of the Prime Minister. The Prime Minister is accountable to the Parliament. (*Interruptions*). Please allow me to speak. (*Interruptions*). Why are you preventing me from speaking? Please allow me to speak... (*Interruptions*).

SHRIMATI JAYANTHI NATARAJAN: We are not afraid of what you are speaking but... (*Interruptions*)...

SHRI G. SWAMINATHAN: If you are not afraid of what I am But, don' try to shut me out why should saying, you reply... (*Interruptions*). you shut me out (*Interruptions*). I am shut me out. The point is that the Central Government is the appointing authority of the Governor, even though it is through the President, How can you absolve yourself of the accountability for what the Governor has done? In the case of a railway accident, the Railway Minister resigns. Whatever the officers do or anybody does, whatever happens, it is only the Railway Minister who can be questioned so, how can you say that you are not responsible and you are not accountable and it is only the Governor who can be... (*Interruptions*)... It does not carry conviction. I am very sorry that this kind of side-tracking the issue is taking place. It is entirely wrong. The Prime Minister and the Central Government, the federal Government, are entirely responsible for this. You cannot escape the responsibility. (*Interruptions*).

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Yes, Malkani Sahib, please speak.

RE: DEATH OF SHRI G. M. SYED

SHRI K. R. MALKANI (Delhi): Madam Chairperson, today my heart is heavy with grief. Mr. Ghulam Murtaza Shah is no more. He was a great man, a great patriot, a great freedom fighter, a great writer and a great humanist. He spent all his life in the service of the people. He joined the freedom movement at the age of 17 and risked losing his property which was then with the Court of Wards. He said that the country comes before property. He joined the Congress, but as a man of independent thinking when he was dissillusioned with it, he resigned. He